Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 14-797

Released: June 10, 2014

COMMENTS INVITED ON APPLICATION OF AT&T SERVICES, INC. ON BEHALF OF AT&T CORP. TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

WC Docket No. 14-89 Comp. Pol. File No. 1158

Comments Due: June 25, 2014

Section 214 Application

Applicant: AT&T Services, Inc. on behalf of AT&T Corp.

On June 2, 2014, AT&T Services, Inc. (AT&T or Applicant) filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) on behalf of its affiliate, AT&T Corp., located at 225 W. Randolph Street, Z1-Office 12C, Chicago, IL 60606, requesting authority, under section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue certain domestic telecommunications services throughout the Unites States including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico (Service Areas). ¹

AT&T indicates that AT&T Corp. currently offers AT&T Business Directory Assistance Services (Affected Services) in the Service Areas. AT&T explains that the Affected Services have been offered to businesses with PBX telephone systems as a means to provide telephone listings through the businesses' telephone systems. AT&T describes the Affected Services as directory services that allow callers to obtain telephone numbers for locations in the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Canada. According to AT&T, the services are offered in a Basic or Enhanced Directory Assistance option. AT&T indicates that both options include Local, National and Reverse Directory Assistance, Business Category Search and Directory Assistance Call Completion Operator Services, while the Enhanced Directory Assistance option also includes stock quotes, weather, and movie listings. AT&T states, however, that AT&T Corp. plans to discontinue these services and no longer offer them in the Service Areas on or after July 1, 2014, subject to Commission authorization. AT&T maintains that the public convenience and necessity will not be impaired by the proposed discontinuance because there are alternative services available and customers will be able to reprogram their PBX and continue to have access to directory assistance services by dialing 411 or (NPA) 555-1212. AT&T states that AT&T Corp. notified its customers of the proposed discontinuance by letters sent via U.S. Mail on April 10, 2014. AT&T asserts that AT&T Corp. is considered a non-dominant carrier with respect to these services.

¹ The Competition Policy Division of the Wireline Competition Bureau subsequently received the filed application on June 3, 2014.

² Discontinuance of international service is governed by section 63.19 of the Commission's rules. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 63.19.

In accordance with section 63.71(c) of the Commission's rules, AT&T's application will be deemed to be granted automatically on the 31st day after the release date of this public notice, unless the Commission notifies AT&T that the grant will not be automatically effective. In the application, AT&T indicates that AT&T Corp. plans to discontinue the Affected Services and no longer offer them in the Service Areas on or after July 1, 2014, subject to Commission authorization. Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(c) and the terms of the application as applicable, absent further Commission action, AT&T Corp. may discontinue its AT&T Business Directory Assistance Services in the Service Areas on or after **July 11, 2014**. The Commission normally will authorize proposed discontinuances of service unless it is shown that customers or other end users would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier, or that the public convenience and necessity would be otherwise adversely affected.

Comments objecting to this application must be filed with the Commission on or before **June 25**, **2014**. Such comments should refer to **WC Docket No. 14-89 and Comp. Pol. File No. 1158**. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance on the commenter, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998). Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the Web site for submitting comments. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission. All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. The filing hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of <u>before</u> entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Two copies of the comments should also be sent to the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-C140, Washington, D.C. 20554, Attention: Carmell Weathers. In addition, comments should be served upon the Applicant. Commenters are also requested to fax their comments to the FCC at (202) 418-1413, Attention: Carmell Weathers.

This proceeding is considered a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's ex parte rules.³ Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's

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³ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 et seq.

written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (*e.g.*, .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (tty).

For further information, contact Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, or Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau. The tty number is (202) 418-0484. For further information on procedures regarding section 214 please visit http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other_adjud.